

Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 HUD-02

AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 COA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-06

EPA-04 INR-07 IO-10 L-02 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03

RSC-01 SS-15 SP-02 FEAE-00 SSO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 EURE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 4161

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SUBJECT: DRAFT PRESS COMMUNIQUE TO BE ISSUED FOLLOWING
MEETING OF ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS

REF: STATE 238858

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF REVISED DRAFT
COMMUNIQUE TO BE CONSIDERED IN COUNCIL NOVEMBER 7:
BEGIN QUOTE:

1. MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY IN THE
TWENTY-FOUR OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES, THE VICE-PRESIDENT
OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES, MR.
SCARASCIA-MUGNOZZA, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM
YUGOSLAVIA, AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF OECD, MET ON 13TH
AND 14TH NOVEMBER, 1974, AT THE ORGANISATION'S HEAD-
QUARTERS. THE MEETING ELECTED AS CHAIRMAN, MRS. GRO
HARLEM BRUNDTLAND, MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE
NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT; THREE VICE-CHAIRMEN WERE
ELECTED: MR. CASS (AUSTRALIA), MR. GUTIERREZ CANO
(SPAIN) AND MR. MORI (JAPAN).

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2. MEETING FOUR YEARS AFTER THE CREATION OF THE

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, THE MINISTERS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE WORK OF THE ORGANISATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES OF MEMBER COUNTRIES AND TO SET NEW ORIENTATIONS. TEN SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS WERE ALSO ADOPTED.

3. ON BEHALF OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS, MINISTERS APPROVED A DECLARATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY REAFFIRMING THEIR INTENTION TO PURSUE, UNDER CHANGING SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, COMMON EFFORTS TO PROTECT AND IMPROVE THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT AND QUALITY OF LIFE.

4. MINISTERS EXCHANGED VIEWS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND POLICIES FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS AND ON FORMS OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION THROUGH THE OECD AND BETWEEN INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS WHICH COULD STRENGTHEN ACTION BY THEIR GOVERNMENTS.

5. THEY ALSO STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES:

- (I) TO PROTECT MANKIND AND NATURE AGAINST SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM HAZARDS CREATED BY POLLUTION;
- (II) TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE WHICH IMPLIES IN PARTICULAR A MORE CAREFUL MANAGEMENT OF URBAN SETTLEMENTS;
- (III) TO ACHIEVE A MORE RATIONAL USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN PARTICULAR BY MEANS OF POLICIES TO PREVENT THE WASTE OF RAW MATERIALS AND ENERGY.

6. MINISTERS AGREED THAT ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC POLICIES SHOULD BE DELIBERATELY COORDINATED AND INTEGRATED; THUS, FOR EXAMPLE, AN APPROACH SHOULD BE DEVELOPED TOWARD THE USAGE OF ENERGY WHICH WILL PROVIDE ADEQUATE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

7. MINISTERS MOREOVER AGREED THAT A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS ARISING DURING THE NEXT TEN YEARS COULD ONLY BE SOLVED

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BY FURTHER STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION. IN THIS REGARD THEY STRESSED:

- (I) THE NEED FOR JOINTLY REVIEWING ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED IN THE MEMBER COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THE ABOVE-MENTIONED OBJECTIVES;
- (II) THE IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACHED TO CONTINUED WORK WITHIN THE ORGANISATION FAVOURING THE HARMONISATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND

AVOIDING RESTRICTIVE EFFECTS OR DISTORTIONS
SUCH POLICIES MIGHT CREATE IN INTERNATIONAL
TRADE AND INVESTMENT;
(III) THEIR DETERMINATION TO JOIN IN SEEKING SOLUTIONS
TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, SUCH AS TRANSFRONTIER
POLLUTION OR THE MANAGEMENT OF SHARED RESOURCES,
WHICH ARE INHERENTLY INTERNATIONAL.

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8. MINISTERS ADOPTED TEN ACTION PROPOSALS WHICH TOOK
THE FORM OF RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE ORGANISATION TO THE
MEMBER COUNTRIES. THESE TEXTS, WHICH WILL BE MADE
PUBLIC, CONCERN:

- (I) THE ASSESSMENT OF THE POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL
EFFECTS OF CHEMICALS;
- (II) THE ANALYSIS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES
OF SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROJECTS;
- (III) NOISE PREVENTION AND ABATEMENT;
- (IV) TRAFFIC LIMITATION AND LOW-COST IMPROVEMENT OF
THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT;

(V) MEASURES REQUIRED FOR FURTHER AIR POLLUTION
CONTROL;
(VI) CONTROL OF EUTROPHICATION OF WATERS;
(VII) STRATEGIES FOR SPECIFIC WATER POLLUTANTS CONTROL;
(VIII) ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT;
(IX) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLLUTER-PAYS PRINCIPLE;
(X) PRINCIPLES CONCERNING TRANSFRONTIER POLLUTION.
END QUOTE

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2. SECRETARIAT HAS TAKEN NOTE OF DEPARTMENT COMMENTS IN
REFTEL, WHICH ARE INCORPORATED WITH RECOGNITION OF
COMMENTS OF OTHER DELEGATIONS. MISSION REQUESTS
FURTHER GUIDANCE FOR NOVEMBER 7 MEETING
AT WHICH COUNCIL WILL CONSIDER DRAFT PRESS
COMMUNIQUE.
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